

An Independent Newspaper of Democratic Principles, but not Controlled by any Set of Politicians or Manipulators; Devoted to Collecting and Publishing all the News of the Day in the most Interesting Shape and with the greatest possible Promptness, Accuracy and Impartiality; and to the Promotion of Democratic Ideas and Policy in the affairs of Government, Society and Industry.

DAILY, pe	r Yoar	300		100					\$6	00
DAILY, po	r Month								- 10	60
SUNDAY.	per Year					٠			1	00
DAILY and	SUNDA	Y 1	ocr	Yes	ar				7	00
WEEKLY.	per Year						٠		- 1	00
	ditress,	TII	E	SU	v. 1	Ven	. 5	ark	cit	7.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1884.

	ar circulation Nov. 20, 1		Sun	for the
Monday Monday Tuestay Wednesday	126.520 10.5005 10.5015 10.5015	Saturday		95.079 02.10 03.21
Total for	the week	and the same of the		01,815

The St. John Vote in New York.

The vote for Mr. Sr. John in this State surprises the Republicans. Their highest estimate was 15,000. He gets 24,900. Naat Dow. the apostle of temperanes, and Probibition ous task than was the foundation of candidate for President in 1880, obtained in the English colonies in North America, New York a vote of only 1,517.

The reasons a ligar i for this increase are numerous. The main cane a is said to be the growing interest in probabilion in all parts of the country, while he New York there is the special grievanes that the last Republican Legislature did not rede in its alleged promise to take steps to submit to the people an amendment to the Constitution which would stop the sale of liquor in the State.

We think it highly probable that there is still another reason for the heavy vote given to Sr. John in New York. An analysis of the it is promised a yearly income of \$200,000 returns will show that this vote was exceptionally large in the Stalwart counties where Mr. Conk arms in the political conflicts of the past u - d to bear sway, and where his friends are yet numerous and enthusiastic. We will set down in one column the Sr. John vote, and in another the vote east for Dow four years ago, arranging the counties in alphabetient order.

Counties	St. John.	Done.	Connties:	St. Jethas.	Dote.
Allegany	1,151	10	Onondags	6.01	411
Cattarangua.	999	43	Oswego	530	61
Cayoga	5.01	211	Steeben	. 004	4
Brie	725	None	Saffulk	457	15
Jeffermon	650	15	Tiega	401	48
Madison	529	(3)	Cister	420	33
Monroe	1,200	11	Wyoming	463	9
Ningara.	. Design	48			-
Oneida	1198	120	Tetal	11,031	558

Those familiar with the old and almost forgotten rivalries of CONKLING and FENTON, and the more recent and far bitterer contro versios between the Staiwarts and the Half Breeds, will recognize these sixteen counties as the sources from which the Oneida sachem gathered the trusty henchmen who stood by him in his conflicts with his opponents. In the peculiar circumstances of the recent campaign may not many of them have resorted to the Prohibition ticket as a convenient and safe method of giving Mr. BLAINE a side blow that might deprive him of the thirty-six votes of New York? The personal and factional proclivities of some of the Republican leaders in these counties look very much like it.

Passing over Mr. Conkling, we see, for example, in these counties Hamilton Ward of Allegany, whose nomination for Attorney-General was warmly advocated by Conk-LING in the Convention of 1879, but whom the Half Breed Convention of 1831 refused to renominate; and George G. Hoskins of Wyoming, whom CONKLING took pains to have nominated for Lieutenant-Governor in 1879, the lip; and Stephen B. French of Suffolk, who represented Collector Robertson by proxy at Saratoga in 1882; and Gen. SHARPE of Ulster, whose position is not always clearly ascertained when the party is in a quarrel: and Parkick W. Culturan of Oswego. who now and then turns up at Inconvenient times in that county; and RICHARD CROW-LEY of Ningara, and Thomas C. Platt of Tioga, and a good many others in these counties, all of whom went for James G. BLAUNE in their own peculiar Stalwart way.

At all events, the Prohibition returns in this state are an interesting subject of study to those who are at home in politics.

A Congo State Created by the Berlin Conference.

The outcome of the work done last week by the Congo Conference is definite and Important. The African International Association seems to have been formally recognized as an independent political entity, clothed with all the self-defensive, order-maintaining, and treaty-making powers of a veritable State. Moreover, the committee charged with the delimitation of the territory in which the new power should be acknowledged sovereign recommended the allotment of a broad belt spanning the black continent from the Atlantic almost, if not quite, up to the coast of the Indian Ocean. The report of the committee, having been adopted by the Conference, embodies the deliberate decree of the nations represented at Berlin. So far, then as dominion may be achieved on paper, the African empire dreamed of by the explorer STANLEY, and to promote which LEO-POLD II., King of the Belgians, has made extensive draughts upon his private fortune. has been verily manufactured.

No well-informed persons are surprised to learn that Portugal's attempt to revive a long-abandoned claim to the Congo coast and the premature sanction of her pretensions by Lord GRANVILLE were treated by the Conference with disclain. Even had the work of the delegates stopped here, their convocation would have been justified by the notice served upon Great Britain that the partition of territory in remote quarters of the earth will be left no longer to her arbitrary fiat, but that henceforth her decision will be subject to reversal on appeal to an international tribunal. But the committee called upon to fix the boundaries of the African Association must also be credited with admirable judgment for insisting on a commercial rather than a strictly geographical definition of the Congo River communication between the upper and the lower Congo being blocked by cataracts, the first part of the journey from the Atlantic to the interior must be performed by parallel and unimpeded watercourses or by a railway, and it followed that a considerable strip of the west coast must be assigned to the new State. As a matter of fact, the littoral tract vested by the Conference in the association

is a long one, stretching from a point

embracing a great part of the so-called Angols, claimed by the Portuguese, and reaching on the north to the French Gaboon fron-The Congo State will thus control the most desirable means of communication yet discovered with the upper course of the great waterway, and will have the exclusive power of levying customs duties, should any imposts of the kind be authorized by the Conference, a point as yet undecided.

But the new commonwealth evoked on paper in the heart of Africa is not, it seems, to be restricted to the one outlet on the Atlantic. From the moment it was determined to substitute a commercial for a physiographical delimitation of the Congo basin no valid objection could be offered to an extension eastward of the tract to be conceded. The resolution of the Conference does, in fact, provide for such a prolongation of the association's territory to the Indian Ocean, the powers represented covenanting to lend their good offices to settle on the spot any controversies engendered by the claims of Portugal, of Zanzibar, or of native potentates. The importance of the last-named agreement will be appreciated when we recall that the Mezambique possessions of Portugal nominally march with the frontier of the Sultanate of Zanzibar, and thus ostensibly wall off the Congo State from the enst const.

But although the African Association will be henceforth furnished with all the decorative insignia of nationality, although it can make laws and treaties and appoint Governors and Ambassadors, it will obviously need something besides a parchment charter in order to create a stable and self-sustaining commonwealth. The occupation of equatorial Africa is an incomparably more arduand, if accomplished, would be more appropriately classed with the feats of Contra and Pizauno. If the Congo State is ever to become a reality, if it is to make its authority respected and assure communication with the African Interior to European trade, it must have at its disposal a strong military force and ample pecuniary resources. Hitherto the association has depended almost exclusively on the contributions of the King of the Belgians, which are said to amount alfrom the same source. But this revenue is almost fudierously inadequate to an enterprise which really involves nothing short of a conquest of Central Africa. It may be that the Conference, alive to the financial exigencies of the situation, will permit the State it has created to levy moderate duties upon imposts for a term of years, in which event the African Association might possibly find a market for its bonds. But when it asks investors to buy Congo securities, its achievements and its prospects will be subjected to a far more rigorous scrutiny than any they have yet received.

Compulsory Prayers at Harvard.

Many of the undergraduates of Harvard College have signed a petition asking the college authorities that attendance at the morning religious service which is held in the college chapel shall be made voluntary to a certain extent. At present every undergraduate who cannot present some sufficient excuse is required to go to these religious exercises. In consequence the number of hearty and athletic young fellows who, according to their indulgent physicians, are unable to breathe without danger the morning air of Cambridge has long been alarmingly great.

The proposition of the petitioning undergraduates is by no means a violent one. They ask that undergraduates twenty-one years of age or upward shall be allowed to choose for themselves whether they will go to prayers or not, and that the choice shall be made for undergraduates under age by their parents or guardians. It does not seem to be expected that this petition will be granted. Many of the signers intend to take measures to induce the graduates of the college to favor the proposed change, and to vote for overseers who will try and bring it about. The petition, then, is not the result of any boyish freak or sudden enthusiasm or before the Convention adjourned for tea, lest there should be a slip between the cup and well-considered and deliberate plan of action which must ultimately be reckoned with.

The discussion which it must sooner or later bring on among the graduates of the colleges will fortunately be simple. The old dispute as to the merits and demerits of a strictly secular system of education has nothing to do with the question to be settled at Cambridge. Nor will it be necessary to determine, if it were possible to do so, how much good or how much harm morning prayers may do to ten for undergraduates. That ill humor, profanity, and lying may be some of the immediate effects of forcing young men to a formal observance of religion may be true enough, and they may some of them derive a permanent disgust with religion from the same cause. These matters might be important if the general question of the advisability of having compulsory religious exercises in colleges were to be considered, but are not necessary in forming an opinion as to whether compulsory religious exercises are desirable and

proper at Harvard College or not. That college has for the last fifteen years pursued a policy which must logically lead it in the end to giving the largest liberty in every direction to all its students. The margin of compulsory guidance by the college of the studies of the undergraduates is already narrowed almost to nothing. Practically the free choice of the student already determines for him what studies shall occupy his attention during his residence at Cambridge. The college tends more and more to become merely a teaching and examining body. It offers various opportunities to the students, and to such limits its legitimate function must ultimately be confined.

Unless the so-called elective system is sham, the old in loco parentia theory of education should now have no place in Cambridge. The qualification of an undergraduate to pass his examinations in his progress toward a degree, and his intellectual and not his moral welfare, should be looked after by the college government. There is no more propriety in its requiring him to go to prayers in the morning than there would be in its requiring him to go to bed at 9 o'clock. With exterior discipline and regulation it should have as little as possible to do.

We are not now called upon to consider whether the system which has been growing up at Cambridge is good or bad. At least, it ought to be consistent, and it isn't. The custom of compulsory prayers does not jump with the custom of voluntary recitations and elective studies. The former is a survival from the Harvard College of a hundred years ago. Compolsory prayers are out of place in a scheme of college education which seeks to give as much freedom as possible to the student. Considered in connection with the rest of the Harvard programme they must appear an unnecessary interference and an unwarrantable restriction, an incongruous mediceval detail in a very modern building.

A timid regard of what is supposed to be the wish of religious people is probably at the bottom of the slowness of the Har far south of the mouth of the Congo, and | vard College authorities to abolish compul-

sory morning prayers. They are afraid that religious parents would refuse to send their children to a college that would not ring up its students for prayers. And the college is too poor to lose any tuition fees. But the plan lately proposed by the under-graduates can hardly dissatisfy the religlous public, and it will satisfy the irreligious public who may have sons to educate.

President ELIOT, if we are not mistaken, some years ago ventured to send a circular to parents of undergraduates for the purpose of getting the opinion of these parents as to morning prayers, and perhaps he may now be induced to repeat his inquiries. But the final determination of the question rests with the graduates who may, as the undergraduates propose to do when their time comes, elect overseers known to be opposed to compulsory prayers. Whether the graduates as a body are opposed or in favor of them is another matter. Probably most of them don't care anything about the subject; but the agitation begun by the undergraduates may have an effect upon their predecessors.

Whatever may be the causes of the strong prejudice against compulsory prayers which exists among the undergraduates, their petition touches an inconsistency in the Harvard policy which ought to be removed.

The peculiarities of great men have atracted interest in all ages and countries. Some future American PLUTARCH will find in the careers of our heroes, statesmen, diplo matists, and other illustrious characters much material to instruct and to amuse

coming generations of robust freemen. Diplomacy has furnished in late years some examples of rare gentus, which, but for the zeal of the enterprising Department of State, might have passed away unhonored and unsung. A grateful country will always cherish the inspired despatches of J. MERRI-DITH READ, Illuminated as they were with Greek fire, and recalling as they did the knightly days of chivalry and song. Overflowing with originality, enthusiasm,

and diplomatic fervor, JRHU BAKER, Min-Ister of the United States to Venezuela, has attracted an attention on this continent only second to that which the late Minister to Greece drew to himself in two hemispheres.

The American people have read the remarkable correspondence of Jehu down to No. 600, the last published in the volume of Foreign Relations, with increasing admiration for its muscular force and its charming ndifference to the Queen's English. He never failed in many controversies to stand faithfully by the language of JOHN LOGAN in the Senate and on the stump. While the Government of Venezuela may at times have modestly dissented from the arguments of JEHU, the President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs always admired his loyalty to the American tongue, and especially to the Illinois idioms.

The pet phrases of this distinguished diplomatist have long agitated the literary circles of Caracas, among which they were flung with a prodigal generosity, both officially and privately. To Mr. FRELINGHUY-SEN, about an interview with Mr. SEIJAS, Minister of Foreign Affairs, JEHU writes:

"I drew his attention to the note, took it in hand, read the entire body of it to him, enforcing it by accompanying verbul remarks upon different parts of it."

In another despatch to Mr. FRELINGHUY-SEN, dated March 29, 1883, JEHU Says: "I enclose herewith a copy and translation of a verb

note, of date 20th instant, from Mr. SEIJAS." In a third despatch to Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN

(No. 593) JEHU SAYS: "I read it to him in full; made some wroot remarks in

explanation or enforcement of it, and commended it to the candid and just consideration of the President." On the occasion of placing a statue of Washington in the plaza at Caracas Jehu spread his wings for a flight that may be said to approach the grandest soarings of MEREDITH READ:

"This act is full orbed and morally sublime. It touches the hearts of the two great branches of our common race. Over the subile trainways of human thought and sentiment its waves of beneficent influence will traverse the wide expanses of two continents, from the Straits of Magellan and the stormy Horn to where the aurora crowns with electric fire the frozen zone of the north."

Turning gallantly to the gentler sex, he continued:

"I give a word of artistic and delicate recognition o the fair ladies of Caracas who grace this assemblage with their presence, and whose beauty catches exquisiteness from the magnificent climate in which it is their happy privilege to live."

Then solemnly closing, in the tones of an

International chaplain, he said: "Placing together the names of Washington and Bond VAR. I dispense the benisons of the great republic of the United States upon the beautiful and fascinating repub

lic of Venezuela. JEHU is said to be the most prolific correspondent of the Department of State. Every mail from Venezuela comes laden with the rich stores of his diplomatic wisdom and of his intellectual resources. He keeps the translator hard at work night and day, so that Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN may have a full view of the great questions which are constantly pressing forward in the relations of the two republics.

LOWELL must come home. MORTON must dome home. Kasson must come home. Young must come home. Aston must come home. TAPT must come home. OSBORN must come home. Morgan must come home. Francis must come home. BINGHAM must come home. Daggerr must come home. DAYTON must come home. HOPFMAN must come home. PHELPS must come home. CRAMER must come home. FISH must come ome. Logan must come home. Even SCRUGGS, who ranks second only to MEREDITH

READ in poetic inspiration, must come home. The logic of events requires the return of these and of other patriots who have been faithfully drawing large salaries and living liberally at the expense of Uncle Sam. The civil service rules will not protect these favorites of GARFIELD and of ARTHUR. But whatever may come to pass, the country will insist with a loud voice that JEHU shall stay at Caracas-even in a private capacity

Bank Stocks as Investments.

The failure of the Middletown National Bank adds another to the long list of disasters of the same kind which have happened during the past few months. In this city alone five banks, the Marine, the Metropolitan, the Wall street, the Second National and the West Side, have either been bankrupted altogether or seriously crippled. Outside of the city the more conspicuous examples have been in New Jersey, Vermont, Indiana, and Ohio. The report of the Comptroller of the Currency shows that during the year ending Nov. 1, 1884, eleven national banks were placed in the hands of receivers, six previously bankrupt were flually wound up, and the affairs of twenty-one were still in liquidation. This is a total of thirty-eight national banks, exclusive of State institutions, which have failed within a recent poriod. Some of them have paid their depositors in full, but most have not, and, with a very few exceptions, their stockholders have not only lost their entire investment, but have had to make a contribution besides.

It is not strange that, in view of these facts, capitalists are beginning to question the desirability of bank stocks as invest-

ments. In years gone by banks carned and paid large dividends and had a sufficient margin for occasional losses. The tradition of those happy times has survived, and still cheats the careless public with the illusion that a bank, simply because it is a bank must be profitable under any circum stances. Bank officers, for their own sakes have striven desperately to justify this popular superstition, and have taken all sorts of crazy risks in order to maintain their ancient rate of earnings. Often they have succeeded, but quite as often they have not, and the result has been as we see -ruin. It is simply impossible nowadays for banks to make the money they used to make, and it is in vain to expect that they should.

Here in New York we have sixty-one banks

with capitals ranging from \$100,000 to \$5,000,-000, and deposits running from \$500,000 up to \$22,000,000. Some of the smaller institutions supply a local need, and have a local business which justifies their existence; but most of them merely compete with larger banks in the same neighborhood, which could render the public all the services they do without any additional expense. They are kept up merely to yield salaries to their officers and employees, and the stockholders have to lose accordingly. The growing wealth of the country has so reduced the prevailing rate of interest, and our merchants are so much better supplied with capital than they formerly were, that notes and drafts have to be discounted at four and five per cent, where once ten and twelve per cent, used to be obtained. Even at these low figures trust companies and private bankers step in and take the cream of commercial paper, leaving only the poorer sort for the incorporated banks, and these are driven to lending their money on call on stocks, with the result, frequently, of being saddled with securities not worth the amount advanced upon them. To keep their customers, also, they extend to them various favors, such as discounting for them doubtful paper, crediting to them out-of-town checks as each in advance of collection, and in other ways taking undue risks for their benefit. When, in addition to all this, the President or the oashier either speculates in stocks and produce himself or has a crony who does so, it is easy to see how the stockholders must inevitably suffer. They are lucky if only their dividends are out down and they do not lose their stock, or, perhaps, have to pay an assessment on it in addition.

Stockholders who are called upon to sign papers extending the term of existence of banks now about to expire, cannot fail to consider these things, and it will not be surprising if they prefer to go into liquidation and save what they can before it is too late.

Did the Election Show It?

The Chicago Times thinks that the fact that the Hon. B. F. Jonas was not reëlected to his present seat in the Senate by the Louislana Legislature of last winter constitutes a strong reason why he should not have a place in the new Cabinet. The refusal of the Legislature to make him his own successor, according to our esteemed contemporary. shows that Mr. Jonas does not command the approval of his immediate constituents, and probably lacks the confidence of the country also; and consequently he ought not to be intrusted with a post of power and responsibility by the incoming President. That may be sound reasoning, but we fear that a great many eminent Democrats would have to give up all hope of going into Mr. CLEVELAND'S Cabinot if such a principle should be established.

But at the same time the Times thinks that the enforcement of this idea would not exclude the Hon. George H. Pendleton from among the new President's advisers. Mr. PENDLETON also falled of reflection to a seat in the Senate, the Hon. HENRY B. PAYNE having been chosen in his place; and thus he is in exactly the same predicament as Senator Jonas. The Ohio Democrats no longer want him to represent them. Still, we are told that Senator PENDLETON has the confidence of the country because of his views upon the question of the civil service. and on that account he is a proper candidate for a post that is to be denied to Senator JONAS.

But how does our contemporary know that the majority of the country is in favor of Senator Pendleton's ideas about reforming the civil service?

Is it because of the profound and liberal declaration in the Democratic platform in favor of "an honest civil service reform?" Or is it because 1,100 more men in New York State voted for GROVER CLEVELAND than for JAMES G. BLAINE? Or is it on account of the election of the Hon, THOMAS A. HENDRICKS of Indiana? If the reason for Senator PEN-DLETON'S preference over Senator Jonas is contained in each or in any one of these three facts, we fall to see it.

Not Encouraging.

Our esteemed contemporary and friend, Mr. John Swinton, takes a gloomy view of the voting at the Presidential election. The workingmen, the trade unionists, the Greenbackers, the anti-monopoly leaders, the Socialists, he tells us, all abandoned their principles and their own party and gave their suffrages to one or the other of the candidates against whom they had all along professed to be most ardently enlisted. Here is what Brother SWINTON has to say upon this interesting subject:

"Nearly all the workingmen of the country voted against the platform which contained almost every de-mand made in their behalf—the Indianapolis platform. "Nearly all the Knights of Labor voted ag "Nearly all the kinging of Lanor voted against the platform which embodied almost every article in their 'Declaration of Principles."
"Nearly every trade unionist voted against the party

which favored the legalization of national trade unions. "A large proportion of the Greenbackers, who voted for WEAVER four years ago, failed to vote for the Green back candidate this month.
"Hosts of professed anti-monopolists voted for the

two parties of monopoly and the money power.

"Not a few 'labor leaders' and 'labor papers' took sides against the party which sustained the pr they advocate.
"Many men who have been threatening to 'fight for

their rights' refused to cast a ballot for them, and voted for their enemies.
"The Indianapolis platform called for a reduction of the hours of labor; but where were the 'short hour' me on election day ! It called for the abolition of child la-

r: but where were the abelitionists? "We are told that many of the Socialists of this city voted for Blains or CLEVELAND. Many of the men who groan as they 'grind the mills

of the Philistines' voted for the bosses of the mills.
"It is a queer world, after all; but let us keep on ploughing its rocky soil as long as life lasts." The experience which is here narrated is not new. We have witnessed a great many efforts to build up a third party, with the workingmen and their peculiar interests as the foundation, and we have had hopes of some of them, and especially of the People's

have not been fulfilled. It appears that the political passions which govern the great parties are stronger than the impulses of special interests. The majority of the workingmen will not separate themselves into a political organization which divides them from the great mass of the people. After all, they are Democrats or Republicans more than they are labor reformers, anti-monopolists, or Socialists, and when election day comes they go and vote with that political party which has the

greater hold upon their sympathies. Yet Mr. Swinron and the other leaders of

the radical ideas that look so far in advance of either Democratic or Republican theories, are amply justified in their devotion to the cause they have embraced :

"'Tis better to have loved and lost Than never to have loved at all."

Badly Taught. Nobody will dispute that Harvard and Yale are the two chief American colleges and if there is anything that we have a right to expect from them, it is that their students should be carefully instructed in the art of expressing their ideas elegantly and clearly in the English language.

But what shall we say when the representatives of these two ancient institutions of learning in the Intercollegiate Football Asociation deliberately adopt a declaration like the following:

"That the association disapprove of Princeton's ac-tion toward the referee, and extend a vote of thanks to Mr. Application for refereeing the game in a proper and lignified way."

What an atroclous word is this verb refereeing!" Where is the authority for its invention? By what right do the delegates of Harvard and Yale force such a verb into the vocabulary of the vernacular?

The faculty in each of these colleges ought to call the offending delegates before them, and, after due trial and conviction, they should be expelled, or at least rusticated for their crime.

It is hinted that Senator Payer may be Secretary of the Francis, and in that event Johan McLean will have a chance to wear a toga many sizes to leg for him. When New York State set the fashion of sending midgets to the Senate it assumed a frightful responsibility.—Chicago Hevald.

How in the world does John McLean suggest the idea of a midget to our esteemed contemporary? And when did New York send such an insect to the Senato? Mr. McLEAN is not a argeman in person, and his head is rather bald, but wasn't he big enough to get himself dected Chairman of the Ohio delegation to Chicago last July, and in that way didn't he overcome the mighty old Roman, ALLEN G.

THURMAN? Was that the work of a midget?
We presume, from our contemporary's estimate of the gentleman of Ohio, that it refers to the Hon. Thomas C. Platt as the midget that went to the Senato from New York. But wasn't it Mr. PLATT who was most influential in minating BLAINE and defeating ARTHUR and thus turning the great Republican party out of office? A pretty potent sort of a midget was he. We fear that our contemporary will have to get some new standard to measure

Among the Nihllists the sples that creep in and the informers that crawt out have a hard road to travel. At Moscow the other day one of the latter, a student named Rochoyr, gave to the police authorities the names of several of his associates, who, of course, wore arrested and imprisoned. The Nihilists condemned him to death, and he was put under police protection and allowed to take up his quarters in one of the prisons, where it was thought he might remain for a time in perfect security. He soon tired of this sort of life, and was per mitted to receive a few friends in whom he confided. At his last reception his guests were unusually gay and happy. They remained with him for a long time, and, after giving him a parting toast, they wished him a good night and pleasant dreams. Just as he was about to retire to rest he became suddenly ill, and in less than an hour he died with all the symptoms of poisoning. The director of the prison was disnissed, and another informer, named Lav-BOUCHINE, who was kept in the same prison was spirited away by the police, who can find no trace of Rochoff's guests.

Several years ago some Frenchman predicted that the earth was about entering upon a period of great disturbance from earthquakes. He professed to base his predictions on scientific data, but nobody was able to clearly make out his reasons, if he understood them himself. He fixed the culmination of the earthquake period for about 1886. Events have since strongly tended to awaken some degree of faith in the prediction. Since it was made some of the most destructive earthquakes ever known and the most tremendous volcanie eruption of which history contains any record have occurred, and numberless slight shocks of carthquake have been felt in almost every quarter of the earth. Some, like that in this city last summer, have occurred in places supposed to be practically free from such disturbances. Not since the early part of this century have earthquakes been so frequent in this country as during the last half of the present the Atlantic. Yesterday a very large portion of southern Europe was shaken, including part of the great mountain mass of the Alps.

The man who predicted a cycle of earthquakes has certainly established as strong a ciaim upon public credence as the weather prophets, not excepting Gen. HAZEN'S geose.

The victims of the great football fight will soon be able to shoulder their crutches and tell how the game was drawn. A college football player always has a crutch, or at least a limp. It is the badge of his profession. If he were not maimed, dislocated, or smashed in some way, he wouldn't be the hero he is, but a tame and ordinary person like most of the rest of mankind. As it is, he is rather an interesting fellow. The shadow of calamity rests upon him, but fame binds up his wounds. career is full of delight and danger, glory and arnica. He regards the game as a gentle diversion, and asks for no pity for accidents that befall him. It is the referee who is to be pitied. The game of football is a thousand parasangs ahead of the Greek "pentathon," or grand quintuple combination athetic exercise. In fact, next to being distributed by a circular saw, it is the liveliest exercise in the universe. People who object to it have no sense of the beauty of energy and movement. People who play it and survive have no occa-

sion to trouble the life insurance companies. Our esteemed Missouri contemporary, the Kansas City Times, is always full of hope. Thus it suggests that Kansas may become a Democratic State under a Democratic President, and that the appointment of Gen. CHARLES W. BLAIR to a place in the Cabinet would help to bring about that result. This suggestion suggests a new method of building up a party. Let the Democratic States elect a President and the Republican States be represented in the Cabinet. Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Maine would expect to have a man in the Cabinet if Kansas did. And in the course of time these States might become Democratic. Meanwhile, perhaps the Democratic States would have become Republican.

Insersoll's Star Houte Fee. From the St. Louis Globe Democrat

While ex-Senator Dorsey was here in attendance on the Cattle Convention he was asked one day how much he paid Bob Ingersoll for his defence in the Star route trials. "Well," said he, "it was very curious how that was done. From the beginning to the end of the trial Ingersell never asked me for a dollar. One day, after I had been acquitted on the second trial, I met Ingersell and I asked him how much I owed him. met Ingersell and I saked him how much I owed him. He at first declined to talk about it, saying he had no charge to make and he didn't care if he never got a cent. I asked him to walk a few squares with me, and we went the safe deposit building. I unlocked my box and nok out a four per cent. Government bond for \$100.000 and gave it to him. He put it in his pocket and we walked away, and have not referred to the subject since." party in the late election, but these hopes

The Hungry Out of Juil.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I would like to ask one question of the benevolent persons who provided an expensive dinner yesterday for the crimmais confined in our prisons. Ladies and gentlemen in view of the extreme poverty from which so many of our honest and industrious citizens are now suffering our honest and industrious citizens are now suffering do you think the money was well spent? Rediect that this persons you feasted are the encourse of society, and that outside the jails thousands of worthy workers are structured against terrible odds to keep clear of crime or pauperism. It may be well to love our ensuries, but do not our friends claim our first consideration? Don't feast the jailbirds on Christmas Day, but sand comfortables to the freezing and food to the starving unfortunates who have committed no crime to entitle them to a turker diener with Rugg.

BROOKLYN, Nov. 28.

THREE LIVING MISTRESSES OF THE WHITE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29 .- If the bachelor President feels at all embarrassed in regard to his social duties in the White House, he may be able to construct a special "cabinet" of most distinguished ladies for this purpose, a trio of women who have served in the capacity of mistress of the Executive Mansion in the time when the Democratic party was at the beim. It is an interesting fact, and one perhaps not generally understood, that while there are none of the Presidents of ante-bellum days yet living there are no less than three ladice left to us who were social heads of the White House in the times preceding the Republican dynasty. Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Tyler, and Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston are still living.

Mrs. Tyler, the "Bride of the White House,"

till lives in Richmond, a brilliant woman of 57 or 58, near the grave of her husband, made in 1862, still unmarked, a repreach to the State of Virginia, whose Legislature pledged itself long ago to erect over it a suitable monument. Mrs. Polk, who was the next lady occupant of the White House, still lives at Polk Place, in Nashville, now in her 82d year, a well-preserved, intelligent woman, waiting patiently the summons to join her husband, who was called from her side thitry-five years ago, three months after the close of his Administration, and whose remains lie beneath a marble temple on the grounds of her present home. Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston, a handsome woman of 53, whose reign as mistress of the White House during the Administration of her uncle and adoptive father, James Puchanan, is spoken of as one of the most brilliant in the social history of Washington, is a resident of Baltimore, having married Mr. Henry Elliott Johnston of that city in 1866, two years prior to the death

of her uncle, the ex-President. 'If President Cleveland wants to do a graceful thing," said a gentleman, commenting upon the fact that these three women of the White House in ante-bellum days still live, " let him invite Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Tyler, and Mrs. Harriot Lane to assist him in his first reception after the inauguration. It would be a graceful action, and would recall a flood of interesting memories."

And so it would. Mrs. Polk, who was spoken

tion, and would recall a flood of interesting memories."

And so it would. Mrs. Polk, who was spoken of by a travelled English lady as "surpassing in dignity and attractions any of three queens' that she had seen upon the thrones of Europe: Harriet Lane, the britiant mistress of the White House, admired and honored by two continents, and Mrs. Tyler, the Bride of the White House, whose pertrait in bridai dress and veil still hangs in the Green Boom, pointed out to all visitors as the only bride that has ever graced that establishment as its mistress.

"I remember her weil," satil an old employee of the Write House. "It is forty years ago last June since she came here as the bride of President Tyler. It was a joyous event, but recalled some very sad memories, for right here in the great East Room, but a few months before, the manufed remains of her father had been killed almost before her oyes. You don't remember the bursting of the Peacemaker? No, there are not many now in Washington who have a personal recollection of that and event. Weil, the President had met Miss Gardiner here, and their engagement had been made. She and her father, Mr. Gardiner of Long Island, were visiting Washington, stopping at one of the botels here, when they were invited by the President to accompany a party consisting of the Secretary of the Navy, the President, and her father, my father than the season of the season of the research of the wounded carrying the news to those below that some terrible accident had the part saved the country its President, and herself a Presidential husband, for when the gun was fired it evoluded, killing the Secretary of the Navy and hiss Gardiner stather, the cries of the wounded carrying the news to those below that some terrible accident had taken piace, the result was that the wedding of Miss Gardiner and the Secretary of the Navy and her seat Room, in the president was an aw

pleiely by surprise when the guns began firing in honor of the event. They came directly here. She was a beautiful young woman, as you will see by her portrait in the Green Room.

You remember Mrs. Pole, then, if your recollection of Mrs. Tylor is so good?

Very well indeed. Bis was a handsome and fascinating woman. She was very popular, so much so that a Bouth Carolinian once said to her during one of her receptions that there was a woe pronounced against her in the Bible. She inquired with some concern—for she was a deeply religious woman—what it was, when he replied: Well, the Bible says "Woe unto you when all men shall speak well of you." It seemed to be a very appropriate remark, for it seems that everyboly did speak well of you." It seems that everyboly did speak well of her.

And you remember Harriet Lane well?

Oh, yes; that was only a little while ago. Why, it is only about twenty-seven years since she came here. Remember her—well, I should say so. A beautiful, accomplished, queenly young woman; a perfect picture as she stood beside her white-haired bachelor uncle, who had been so long a father to her, and whom she loved with the most earnest affection. It was hard to understand how one so young could have seen so much of the world. She had when she came to the Wnite Hones, seen all that was worth seeing of the courts of Europe, having been for years with her uncle at the court of St. James's, especially honored and beloved by the Queen. Mr. Buchanan was very fond of her, though he used to like to tease her with some quiet, good-natured stories of her girlish days, when she was quite a room. I remember how he used to teil about her beating some young man in a foot race, and also about her wheeling a load of wood through the streets of the town, where she lived, to give it to some neor old woman. She had many admirers, and many offers of marriage Mr. Johnston (Harriet Lane) was here a nouring for her husband enhibered here for yellow of the street of the street of the tinter of the late Judge Jere Black

Prophet De Voe Foretelle More Weather.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The storms

will form near the Guif of Mexico and move northeast-ward this winter; and the first half of December will be warm like April and exceedingly wet, that is, in New York city. But west of the Ohio Vailey winter will sat in early, and everything will be frozen up. It will remain unusually warm in New England all through December, and it will be very warm in the south Atlantic States. But in the west full States it will be very could. There will be frequent funder showers in the sat only States. To day it is clearing and the wind is brick from the horthwest, and mude are fixing from the north which a storm clears of in winter with a southwest which is likely to star clear for reversal days, but when the wind likely to star clear for reversal days, but when the wind with short the wind with the wind with the control of the southwest will enter could shift to the northeast and beschber will enter could shift to the northeast and beschber will enter could shift to the northeast and beschber will enter could shift to the northeast and beschber will enter could shift to the northeast and will shift to the south-ast land could warm. Westmody, heavy rains, Thoraday, clearing and duder. Fritay, closily and rainy Selarday and Samina, ober and cold.

HAURMANDER, NOV. 20. fork city. But west of the Ohio Valley winter will sa

WHAT IS GOING ON IN SUCIETY.

National holidays always have a depre ing effect upon society, especially when the festivities run in the direction of family parties. Christmas week is known to be the dullget in the whole year, and would be quite stagnant but for the excitement of shopping and the little mysteries of Santa Claus. Thanks-giving day, from a society point of view, has nothing whatever to redoem it. It is like Sun-day with roast turkey substituted for roast beef. And this year the leaden skies did not help the general depression. Happy were the athletes, the football and base ball players, the hunting people, and those whose paths lay in New Jersey and Long Island. The Puritan Christmas, as it has been called, is essentially a country, not a town festival, and those only really enjoy it whose national birds are raised, fed, and fattened on their own lands, and

whose pumpkins grow on their own vines. whose pumpkins grow on their own vines.

There were many departures from the city on Wednosday evening, but no gay parties made up among young people to spend the day in country places. In accordance with the old English saying, "A southerly wind and a cloudy sky proclaimed it a hunting moraing," but alse! Jack Frost had done his work the night before, and the ground was frozen as had the before, and the ground was frozen so hard that during the morning hours the scent would not lie and a run was impossible. The Meadow Brook Club, however, had a meet later in the day, and Mrs. William Jay's luncheon at Hempstead was attended by many pink coats and not a few pretty faces. It was probably the last of the season, as the happy hunting grounds must soon be deserted now and the innocent fox left to his own devices.

The first debutante's tea was given on Mon-day afternoon by Mrs. John H. Draper, who received about a thousand people, with her handsome daughters at her side. Miss Edith Draper, the beneficiary of the occasion, looked extremely pretty in a costume of white satin, embroidered with pearls, which was set off by the profusion of natural flowers that she carried. Forty bouquets are said to have been received by this young lady, which speaks well for the financial condition of dudedom. and gives promise of many good things to come. Several young ladies received with Miss Draper, all of whom were dressed with the same richness and elegance. Indeed, to judge by the shimmering satins and costly furs that met the eye at every turn, it looked as if Paterfamilias would have beavy drains upon his bank account before the winter is over. American women are undoubtedly the most faultlessly costumed in the world, but they are also the most expensively, and, in view of the large amount of beauty with which nature has en-dowed them, it is to be regretted that their taste runs in the direction of such excessive adornment and ornamentation. A dinner party of twelve, all young people, concluded the entertainment.

The driving storm of Friday interfered some what with Miss Helen Anthon's coming-out tes, but there were people enough present to fill the rooms pleasantly, and the pretty girls who were scattered about in different places showed to better advantage than when crushed behind a rampart of downgers in heavy velvets and sables. Miss Lenn Post, daughter of Mrs. Charles A. Post, who received with Miss Anthon is one of the prettiest girls of the season, and beirays unmistakably by her sweetness of manner the French blood which she inherits from her mother. Miss Post's grandfather, Gen. de Trobriand, is a French gentleman of the old regime, and has always been distinguished for the courtliness of his

manner and address. Miss Anna Stephens, daughter of Mr. I. P Stephens, whose introductory reception is to take place on the 8th of December, also received on this occasion. She is a tall, handsome girl, and has been always a favorite among the youthful members of the dancing class at which nearly all the debutantes of the winter took their first lessons.

Thore was a very gay house at the Academy on Monday when Miss Emma Novada, the American prima donna, made her début, and an immense display of enthusiasm, which was probably more patriotic than commendatory. Both houses have had good audiences during that the tide of fashion has set more strongly than ever in the direction of the Academy. The Metropolitan can afford to be independent of fashion, however, and with its present troupe and management can fight it out

against all the prime donne in the world. This week will be given up almost entirely to teas, recoptions, and opera. For Wednesday cards are out for three teas-at Mrs. Marie's, when a younger daughter, Miss Josephine Marié, will be introduced; at Mrs. De Ruyter's, and at Mrs. Daniel F. Boardman's in East Fortyfifth street. Invitations have also have been received by many New Yorkers to an evening reception to be given on Wednesday by Mr. Pennington Whitehead of Newark for his daughter, Miss Julia Whitehead. Two young ladies belonging to old New York families, who have been out of society for several years, will be introduced on Thursday at a recention to be given from 4 to 7 by Mrs. Charles Coolidge Haight. They are Miss Effle McVicker Haight. daughter of the well-known architect, Mr. Charles Haight, and her cousin, Miss Me-Vickar, a daughter of the late Rev. William A. McVickar and a granddaughter of the late Prof. McVickar of Columbia College. Miss Mc-Vickar's brother, Mr. Harry McVickar, is the promising young artist whose "Boston Tee Party" and other etchings in the periodicals of the day are attracting a good deal of attention For the variety entertainment to take place in Orange on Thursday, in aid of a local char ity, large parties have already been made up who will go and return the same evening. The

tions, and the entertainment will conclude with music and humorous sketches by Mr. Frank Lincoln. A matinée is announced at Delmonico's on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 2 o'clock, for the benefit of the New York Orthopedio Dispensary and Hospital. There will be music and recitations by distinguished artists, professional and amateur, the whole under the direction of Mrs. William M. Bliss, Miss A. Roosevelt, Miss J. P. Tuckerman, Mrs. William Astor, Mrs. William A. Hadden, and other ladies well known in the

social and benevolent world,

attractions promise to be very great as Mrs

tower scence from the "Romance of a Poor

Potter and Mr. George Riddle are to give the

Young Man," in which Mrs. Potter has won her

best laurels, and Mr. Coward will recite in cos-

tume. Mr. Monteflore Isaacs, whose eleverness

at sleight of hand and other tricks of legerde-

main make him greatly in request for amnieur

performances, will give some of his best decep-

The death of Fanny Ellsler, the celebrated danseuse, which has just been announced by cable, will recall to old New Yorkers the excitement and enthusiasm that attended her short engagement here more than forty years ago. She made her first appearance on an evening in the month of May, when a matinee dansante, as it was called in those days, had been given in the morning by the rich bachelor, Mr. William Douglas, at his residence, on the corner of Park place and Church street. Ladius drove from Mr. Douglas's house to the old Park Theatre in full dress, and so brilliant an audience had never before brightened the dingy interior of New York's best theatre at that time. Ludlows, Hamiltons, Gracies, Howthe wind blooks from nearly due north it will she be clear only and the wind will enter childy and clearly and the wind will shirt of the northeast and blocation of the fortunes were small and the wind will enter childy and clearly and the wind will enter childy and clearly and the wind will enter childy will enter child with a fact that the northeast and blocation of the fortunes were small and the wind will enter child with a fact their postessors medical flied the share and board warm. Welmesday, clearly and board sam Ward beamed and cheered from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz day and small could, and rainy said from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P. Whits and Fitz from the sings box. N. P lands, Crugers, Edgars, and other well-known

5